

Waukesha County Cropland Conservation Standards

All county-owned cropland shall comply with all of the following conservation standards:

I. Agricultural Nonpoint Pollution Performance Standards and Prohibitions (Chapter NR 151, Wisconsin Administrative Code), as summarized below:

a. Agricultural Performance Standards and Prohibitions:

- Soil erosion rate. Soil Erosion rates on all cropland must be maintained at or below "T value", the allowable rate that can sustain a soil's productivity as determined by the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation, Version 2 (RUSLE2).
- Nutrient management. All manure and other nutrients applied to croplands must be done in conformance with a nutrient management plan (NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 590) designed to minimize surface and groundwater pollution. An updated Nutrient Management Checklist will be submitted to the Land Resources Division by May 31 annually.
- Clean water diversion. Clean water runoff shall be diverted away from contacting feedlots, manure storage facilities and barnyards in Water Quality Management Areas (WQMA means the area with 1000 feet of a lake or 300 feet from a river, or areas susceptible to groundwater contamination).
- Manure storage. All new or substantially altered manure storage facilities must meet current NRCS engineering design standards to prevent surface or groundwater pollution.

b. Manure Management Prohibitions:

- No direct runoff from animal feedlots into waters of the state.
- No overflowing manure storage facilities.
- No unconfined manure piles in a WQMA's .
- No unlimited livestock access to waters of the state.

II. Waukesha County cropland conservation standards (in addition to the above state standards):

- a. Soil cover. Fifty percent of the soil surface must be covered with crop residue or live vegetation at all times, except under extenuating circumstances, as approved by LRD. At no time will less than 50% soil cover will be allowed for more than seven consecutive days.
- b. Buffer. Establish buffer areas along streams, ponds, lakes, wetlands (recommended minimum width of 75 feet from the top edge of each stream bank; Managing the Water's Edge: Making Natural Connections, SEWRPC April 2010)
- c. Gully control. Protect concentrated flow areas with grassed waterways; repair any gully erosion following NRCS Field Office Technical Guide, Conservation Practice Standards and Construction Specifications.